

Remarks

I. Status

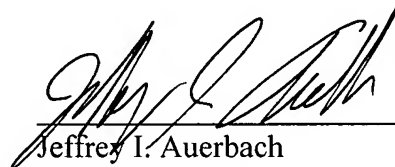
Claims 1-27 were previously pending. Applicants have amended the claims in order to conform to the claim drafting requirements of the United States Patent & Trademark Office, to address minor typographical informalities and antecedent basis. All of the amendments are fully supported by the original claims. No new matter has been added by any of the requested amendments.

II. Concluding Remarks

Applicant respectfully submit that this Preliminary Amendment now places all of the pending claims in condition for Examination, and earnestly solicit early notice of favorable action. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned with respect to any issues regarding this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Edell, Shapiro & Finnan, LLC
1901 Research Blvd., Suite 400
Rockville, MD 20850-3164
Tel: (301) 424-3640 / Fax: (301) 762-4056



Jeffrey I. Auerbach
Reg. No. 32,680
Attorney for Assignee